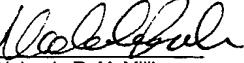


Herby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 23, 2003

Signature:   
Nabeela R. McMillian

Docket No.: 29314/35410a  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Zabeau *et al.*

Application No.: 10/018,453

Group Art Unit: 1634

Filed: October 30, 2001

Examiner: Arun Chakrabarti

For: DIAGNOSTIC SEQUENCING BY A  
COMBINATION OF SPECIFIC CLEAVAGE  
AND MASS SPECTROMETRY

### ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.27(c)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby asserts, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.27(c), that the applicant is entitled to small entity status in the above-identified application. It is therefore requested that small entity status be established.

Dated: July 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Nabeela R. McMillian

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